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alabama business

1983 Retail Sales for Alabama

by Steve Fowler

Estimates of 1983 retail sales for Alabama and the state's sixty-seven counties have been released by the Center for Business and Economic Research. Retail sales estimates for 1983 appear in a special table on Page 2 of this issue. In total, retail sales estimates for 1983 reflect a modest increase over 1982 estimates. All sales at retail in 1983 for the state are estimated at $22,264 million, which represents a 4.7 percent increase over the 1982 total.

CBER compiles retail sales estimates from data supplied by the Alabama Department of Revenue. The Revenue Department provides the amount of sales for each firm with retail sales in the state as reported on the monthly sales tax return. Therefore, estimates of retail sales are based on sales levels and not on the amount of sales tax paid. CBER compiles the data by county and by category of sales and reviews the results for accuracy and completeness.

A number of factors limit the comparability of 1983 and 1982 retail sales estimates. First, the 1983 data are preliminary while the 1982 data are revised. The most common source of revisions is incomplete reports, which result when firms fail to file a sales tax return for one or more months. Sales estimates are revised as these reports subsequently are filed. Another type of revision may occur after the Revenue Department audits a firm's sales tax returns. In general, revisions tend to raise preliminary estimates of sales.

A second factor limiting comparability between 1983 and 1982 is a result of the Revenue Department's simplifying the sales tax return form. The new form in comparison to the old is similar to the 1040A "short form" for individual federal income tax in comparison to the regular 1040 "long form." Use of the abbreviated sales tax return began for sales made in April 1983.

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Retail Sales for Alabama, Metropolitan Statistical Areas, and Counties, 1983

Type of Activity*	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Retail sales by kind of business, state totals ($1,000,000)													
Food	291	290	309	323	322	331	348	332	332	332	315	341	3,865
Gen'l Stores w/ food and gas	23	22	26	27	28	29	30	29	28	27	26	27	323
Gen'l merchandise	150	150	192	204	192	183	212	220	214	226	275	400	2,618
Apparel	33	32	46	45	44	42	41	47	48	46	50	78	551
Furniture, furnishings, etc.	40	41	49	49	53	56	56	60	58	57	57	67	642
Automotive	208	223	284	282	301	311	301	311	291	285	272	274	3,342
Gasoline service stations	85	81	95	88	100	96	90	92	89	81	77	79	1,052
Lumber and building materials	54	56	73	75	87	91	92	105	102	102	93	85	1,016
Hardware and farm implements	23	24	34	34	38	40	36	38	38	40	36	35	417
Eating Places	83	88	101	100	104	104	110	111	108	108	100	106	1,223
Drug stores	37	39	39	40	42	36	38	39	37	39	39	48	473
All other retail	160	162	201	198	237	237	213	231	230	227	220	295	2,611
Total sales by retail	1,187	1,208	1,449	1,464	1,548	1,555	1,568	1,614	1,574	1,572	1,560	1,835	18,132
Nonretail and unclassified	291	279	346	336	368	382	357	369	363	359	331	350	4,131
Total all sales at retail	1,478	1,487	1,795	1,800	1,916	1,936	1,925	1,983	1,937	1,931	1,891	2,185	22,264
Retail sales, Metropolitan Statistical Areas and counties ($1,000)													
MSAs													
Anniston	30,229	31,220	37,709	37,513	39,286	42,495	48,802	50,569	48,364	48,450	47,944	55,789	518,370
Birmingham	404,068	405,110	495,648	489,869	510,632	523,278	514,087	544,695	531,880	529,991	513,170	586,922	6,049,350
Dothan	40,663	40,075	48,440	49,910	51,950	53,168	62,266	65,165	60,889	61,418	59,945	68,200	662,089
Florence	34,887	35,931	44,462	45,410	47,893	48,888	60,564	62,286	60,664	59,552	60,346	70,318	631,201
Gadsden	28,122	27,944	33,265	33,395	37,376	38,819	46,475	48,892	46,279	47,257	45,242	51,963	485,029
Huntsville	63,349	64,916	75,963	75,444	84,248	85,697	99,734	106,430	105,011	104,444	101,352	117,310	1,083,898
Mobile	142,525	139,748	170,025	170,760	183,832	189,936	225,700	229,428	220,383	219,756	220,578	254,919	2,367,590
Montgomery	88,092	91,426	107,611	110,045	116,508	119,581	140,724	148,682	141,354	140,392	140,151	165,278	1,509,844
Tuscaloosa	43,417	41,737	49,282	50,013	52,120	55,509	60,727	65,246	64,254	62,941	62,214	70,453	677,913
Counties													
Autauga	7,904	8,364	9,766	9,579	10,222	10,871	9,732	9,493	8,977	9,089	8,330	9,707	112,034
Baldwin	21,223	21,810	27,273	27,518	30,712	32,395	39,382	37,759	33,665	32,452	31,534	35,295	371,018
Barbour	4,487	4,541	5,091	5,366	6,409	5,659	7,026	6,918	6,974	7,033	6,941	8,173	74,618
Bibb	2,134	1,988	2,306	2,581	2,466	2,642	4,016	4,135	3,865	4,103	4,105	4,974	39,115
Blount	5,787	5,817	6,763	6,254	6,901	7,227	7,966	8,303	8,409	8,391	8,133	8,525	88,476
Bullock	2,090	2,154	2,347	2,873	2,689	2,792	3,047	2,758	2,977	3,077	2,462	3,267	32,533
Butler	4,941	4,743	5,309	5,364	5,924	5,792	7,568	7,599	7,403	7,120	7,103	8,421	77,287
Calhoun	30,229	31,220	37,709	37,513	39,286	42,495	48,802	50,569	48,364	48,450	47,944	55,789	518,370
Chambers	7,130	6,989	8,423	8,189	8,649	8,499	10,986	11,001	10,846	11,061	11,988	11,711	115,472
Cherokee	3,439	3,697	4,595	4,741	4,862	5,251	5,211	4,662	4,703	5,081	4,513	4,968	55,723
Chilton	6,238	6,094	7,763	8,323	8,720	8,927	10,084	10,067	9,527	9,660	9,617	11,198	106,218
Choctaw	3,518	3,254	3,678	3,755	3,881	3,652	4,230	4,163	4,048	4,060	4,080	4,889	47,208
Clark	7,263	6,711	7,822	8,410	8,433	8,565	10,490	9,813	8,712	9,156	9,662	10,969	106,006
Clay	2,041	2,004	2,185	2,433	2,076	2,334	2,518	2,764	2,392	2,636	2,471	3,195	29,049
Cleburne	2,013	1,982	2,407	2,568	2,618	2,699	2,653	2,514	2,646	2,745	2,416	2,660	29,917
Coffee	10,996	11,510	13,656	13,916	15,235	14,965	17,227	17,120	16,884	17,117	16,350	19,444	184,420
Colbert	15,690	15,956	19,103	20,472	21,881	22,350	26,372	27,187	27,023	25,912	24,634	27,741	274,320
Conecuh	2,331	2,652	2,968	3,327	3,353	3,399	3,937	4,053	3,975	4,055	4,042	4,429	42,521
Coosa	1,268	1,375	1,475	1,354	1,569	1,616	1,540	1,668	1,514	1,740	1,493	1,645	18,257
Covington	9,874	10,148	12,413	12,983	13,636	13,329	14,323	14,839	14,253	14,908	15,101	16,654	162,461
Crenshaw	2,515	2,725	2,957	3,339	3,400	3,600	3,285	3,264	3,151	3,270	3,065	3,382	37,952
Cullman	18,658	17,275	21,540	22,645	24,371	25,104	26,529	26,474	26,164	27,270	25,025	27,980	289,035
Dale	6,974	6,663	8,059	8,450	9,265	9,199	10,835	10,861	10,181	10,220	9,901	11,500	112,108
Dallas	12,420	12,341	14,697	15,721	17,285	17,384	19,676	20,909	19,412	19,854	19,661	22,765	212,125
DeKalb	10,222	10,360	12,382	13,070	13,630	15,007	17,060	17,155	16,710	17,687	16,312	18,648	178,243
Elmore	5,717	6,286	6,889	7,407	7,877	7,881	10,754	10,507	10,010	10,547	9,738	11,265	104,878
Escambia	9,690	9,717	12,008	11,981	12,870	13,096	14,469	15,020	13,952	15,180	14,371	16,703	159,057
Etowah	28,122	27,944	33,265	33,395	37,376	38,819	46,475	48,892	46,279	47,257	45,242	51,963	485,029
Fayette	6,419	6,144	7,627	7,436	7,809	8,057	7,172	7,453	7,242	6,973	7,194	8,449	87,975
Franklin	6,026	6,209	7,618	8,320	8,812	9,024	11,022	10,540	10,315	10,370	9,904	11,685	109,845
Geneva	12,536	11,897	12,848	13,497	14,304	13,751	14,083	14,440	13,779	13,735	15,026	14,819	164,715
Greene	1,412	1,395	1,803	1,722	2,281	2,193	2,354	2,050	2,173	2,285	2,172	2,115	23,955
Hale	2,409	2,631	2,988	3,182	3,357	3,297	3,623	3,355	3,500	3,798	3,398	3,704	39,242
Henry	2,779	2,767	3,403	3,884	4,027	3,920	3,894	3,715	3,973	4,160	3,417	4,197	44,136
Houston	33,689	33,412	40,381	41,460	42,685	43,969	51,431	54,304	50,708	51,198	50,044	56,700	549,981
Jackson	9,449	10,589	12,856	12,349	13,624	14,199	15,438	15,378	15,010	15,750	14,055	15,546	164,243
Jefferson	349,746	351,281	430,257	422,725	438,560	450,228	438,844	468,146	457,153	455,614	442,454	509,823	5,214,831
Lamar	2,807	2,537	2,923	3,168	3,481	3,490	3,662	3,993	3,932	4,139	3,389	4,093	41,614
Lauderdale	19,197	19,975	25,359	24,938	26,012	26,538	34,193	35,099	33,641	33,640	35,712	42,577	356,881
Lawrence	4,511	4,057	4,982	5,384	5,767	6,220	7,017	7,037	6,695	6,754	6,346	7,287	72,051
Lee	20,503	22,094	26,408	26,516	28,330	28,927	30,155	31,612	32,954	32,560	32,329	37,798	350,186
Limestone	9,395	9,417	12,346	12,211	12,364	13,595	15,665	15,563	15,328	15,242	14,796	17,698	163,620
Lowndes	1,622	1,557	1,793	1,997	2,168	1,908	2,269	1,811	1,915	2,040	2,155	2,362	23,597
Macon	2,790	2,985	3,369	3,655	3,935	3,855	5,051	4,832	4,497	4,465	4,079	4,224	47,737
Madison	63,349	64,916	75,963	75,444	84,248	85,697	99,734	106,430	105,011	104,444	101,352	117,310	1,083,898
Marengo	5,683	5,672	6,959	6,602	6,561	6,556	7,443	7,213	6,865	7,427	7,413	8,620	83,014
Marion	5,540	5,129	6,255	6,762	7,395	7,461	9,303	9,023	9,246	9,239	8,931	11,215	95,499
Marshall	19,405	20,246	24,859	26,597	27,570	27,314	32,062	31,877	31,312	31,183	31,209	34,894	338,528
Mobile	121,302	117,938	142,752	143,242	153,120	157,541	186,318	191,669	186,718	187,304	189,044	219,624	1,996,572
Monroe	6,604	7,121	8,792	9,006	9,228	9,398	10,163	11,500	10,829	12,022	12,913	13,249	120,825
Montgomery	74,471	76,776	90,956	93,059	98,409	100,829	120,238	128,682	122,367	120,756	122,083	144,306	1,292,932
Morgan	26,653	27,844	33,749	34,468	35,975	37,866	44,126	46,581	46,027	45,388	44,927	52,072	475,676
Perry	1,949	1,974	2,163	2,396	2,539	2,427	2,593	2,569	2,925	2,626	2,499	2,793	29,453
Pickens	3,423	3,262	4,006	4,724	5,122	4,724	4,937	4,869	4,426	4,624	4,329	4,991	53,437
Pike	5,680	6,112	7,723	8,460	9,488	8,504	9,581	10,624	10,181	10,041	10,179	11,562	108,135
Randolph	4,376	4,483	5,396	5,143	5,399	5,249	5,740	5,760	6,193	6,227	5,514	8,011	68,491
Russell	6,991	7,378	8,713	9,123	9,867	9,634	11,166	12,114	10,994	11,183	11,240	12,732	121,135
St. Clair	8,139	9,021	10,909	10,993	12,454	13,135	13,727	13,401	12,765	11,551	11,382	12,713	140,190
Shelby	19,257	18,388	23,930	25,836	27,276	27,952	24,970	25,978	25,982	26,581	23,629	24,785	294,564
Sumter	2,474	2,552	2,844	2,851	2,982	3,037	3,256	3,380	3,246	3,309	3,246	3,922	37,069
Talladega	16,880	16,090	19,153	18,967	22,549	20,969	25,076	24,435	23,829	23,591	22,714	27,380	261,633
Tallapoosa	9,408	9,692	11,247	12,116	12,766	12,970	14,069	13,756	13,836	13,360	12,774	15,133	151,127
Tuscaloosa	43,417	41,737	49,282	50,013	52,120	55,509	60,727	65,246	64,254	62,941	62,214	70,453	677,913
Walker	21,139	20,603	23,789	24,061	25,441	24,736	28,580	28,867	27,571	27,854	27,572	31,076	311,289
Washington	2,215	2,029	2,691	2,253	2,422	2,302	2,584	2,348	2,408	2,178	2,086	2,696	28,212
Wilcox	2,586	2,727	3,121	3,029	3,088	3,082	3,376	3,393	3,301	3,292	3,201	4,497	38,693
Winston	4,440	4,495	5,502	5,866	6,102	6,664	7,329	7,926	7,208	7,629	7,243	8,405	78,809
Statewide	272,504	275,628	332,401	323,274	350,335	333,971	165,852	155,550	163,657	154,522	149,158	181,000	2,858,518

*Please see footnote 11 on Page 7. All MSA data by July 1983 definitions. Please see text for other restrictions.

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS FOR ALABAMA

Type of Activity	Annual		1983								1984				
	1982	1983	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May
INDUSTRIAL															
Bituminous coal production[1] *(1,000 net tons)*	25,869	23,071	1,907	1,759	1,667	2,004	1,937	2,150	2,044	1,849	2,181	2,434	2,518	2,211	2,327
Natural gas production *(1,000,000 cu. ft.)*	133,892	126,576	10,399	10,301	10,189	10,541	9,028	10,409	10,453	9,407	10,962	11,264	10,750	11,386	11,920
Cotton consumption *(1,000 lbs.)*	320,808	360,820	31,724	32,494	24,507	33,557	31,394	30,597	29,370	28,336	28,600	31,542	29,964	27,510	30,176
Crude oil and condensate production[2] *(1,000 barrels)*	20,011	18,708	1,564	1,525	1,596	1,592	1,435	1,522	1,569	1,499	1,624	1,578	1,590	1,533	1,673
Electric energy consumption, industrial purposes *(1,000,000 kwh)*	21,431	21,020	1,753	1,797	1,756	1,963	1,892	1,818	1,799	1,698	1,827	1,958	1,919	1,983	2,005
Pulp, paper, and paperboard production *(1,000 net tons)*	5,419	6,166	556	554	561	505	511	559	510	479	532	526	580	571	525
CONSTRUCTION															
Building contracts awarded, new and alterations combined[3] *($1,000)*	2,011,200	2,768,800	269,800	332,400	161,000	219,900	242,200	278,600	291,000	211,000	228,400	159,700	244,600	171,300	571,700
Residential	847,200	1,294,300	109,900	125,800	101,800	101,300	162,200	138,100	97,300	96,000	98,300	82,200	125,100	104,500	117,500
Nonresidential	660,000	1,017,500	118,300	117,300	44,600	73,300	45,400	108,000	162,000	82,800	112,300	36,300	66,600	47,500	92,500
Public works and utilities	504,000	471,500	41,600	103,900	14,700	45,400	34,400	32,700	31,400	32,200	17,700	41,300	52,900	22,300	361,300
Cement consumption *(1,000 net tons)*	928	1,086	85	116	102	116	101	108	92	67	68	87	108	100	112
FINANCE															
Savings in savings and loan associations[4] *($1,000,000)*	4,598	5,263	4,993	5,063	5,096	5,123	5,158	5,191	5,204	5,263	5,289	5,323	5,389	5,387	5,416
Tax collections *($1,000)*															
Total	2,112,332	2,288,165	218,607	189,144	173,150	191,429	219,553	186,326	221,579	154,139	205,929	202,747	264,652	234,338	246,438
Franchise	52,016	52,214	1,145	2,777	7,524	2,253	7,300	4,430	1,980	507	302	1,153	28,642	5,879	1,275
Gasoline (excl. aviation)	197,894	199,587	16,303	17,158	17,252	17,182	17,874	16,536	16,469	16,044	18,417	16,305	15,305	17,523	17,585
Income	765,160	815,838	108,834	80,633	36,785	81,341	81,667	38,160	83,559	53,073	49,125	95,328	130,393	82,889	130,465
Motor fuels	41,505	45,027	3,901	3,136	3,206	4,195	3,383	4,189	5,673	3,906	3,415	4,409	3,448	3,899	4,703
Oil/gas privilege	36,891	89,645	6,447	6,193	5,131	5,298	5,168	5,106	34,115	4,424	5,742	5,924	5,475	5,164	5,571
Oil/gas production	18,510	17,290	1,823	1,541	1,319	1,319	1,331	1,314	1,339	1,146	1,465	1,565	1,442	1,384	1,480
Sales	562,208	609,132	52,546	52,347	51,650	52,961	51,526	51,888	53,500	49,930	67,569	49,655	50,142	55,808	56,985
2.2% Gross receipts	44,104	46,185	110	48	10,738	61	3,548	10,134	63	6	13,504	152	9	13,448	210
TVA electric	35,999	31,290	2,831	2,831	2,831	2,831	2,911	2,867	.....	2,867	5,724	.....	2,867	2,867	2,867
Tobacco	70,885	68,915	5,599	6,536	6,035	5,426	5,906	6,030	5,454	6,081	5,485	4,985	5,418	5,734	6,072
Use	67,876	66,519	1,239	816	14,707	1,097	643	15,021	1,389	459	15,067	1,975	1,045	15,351	2,019
Utility	134,597	152,287	11,461	10,751	10,617	11,747	12,838	22,053	11,324	11,079	14,760	15,900	13,171	11,714	9,654
PRICES															
Consumer Price Index, U.S.[5] *(1967 = 100)*															
All items	288.8	298.4	297.1	298.1	299.3	300.3	301.8	302.6	303.1	303.5	305.2	306.6	307.3	308.8	309.7
Food	285.7	291.7	292.4	292.0	292.0	292.2	292.6	292.9	292.5	293.9	299.4	302.1	302.2	302.3	301.4
Housing	314.7	323.1	321.8	323.1	324.5	324.8	326.4	326.8	327.0	327.4	329.2	331.0	331.5	333.2	334.6
Fuel and utilities	350.8	370.3	369.3	373.6	375.5	375.1	376.4	374.4	371.3	370.6	376.0	383.0	380.1	380.9	385.5
Apparel and upkeep	191.8	196.5	196.1	195.6	195.0	197.3	200.4	200.7	200.7	199.3	196.4	196.2	198.8	199.2	198.9
Transportation	291.5	298.4	296.2	298.3	300.4	302.4	303.7	305.0	306.3	306.3	306.0	305.8	306.9	309.6	312.2
Medical care	328.7	357.3	354.3	355.4	357.7	360.0	361.2	362.9	364.9	366.2	369.5	373.2	374.5	375.7	376.8
Energy	416.0	419.3	421.3	427.3	430.1	429.8	429.3	425.1	419.9	418.0	416.7	420.2	418.1	421.3	426.1
Producer Price Index, U.S.[6] *(1967 = 100)*															
All commodities	299.3	303.1	301.5	302.4	303.2	304.7	305.3	306.0	305.5	306.1	308.0	308.9	311.1	330.4	311.7
Industrial commodities	312.3	315.7	313.6	315.3	316.5	317.3	317.1	316.5	318.3	318.4	319.1	320.6	321.9	322.5	323.3
Index of prices received by Alabama farmers *(1977 = 100)*	115.8	122.1	120.0	119.0	120.0	126.0	126.0	124.0	131.0	133.0	140.0	138.0	138.0	138.0	134.0
Purchasing power of the dollar, U.S. *(1967 = $1.000)* As measured by															
Consumer prices	346	335	337	335	334	333	331	330	330	329	328	326	325	324	323
Wholesale prices	334	330	332	331	330	328	328	327	327	327	325	324	321	303	321
LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT[7]															
Civilian labor force *(1,000 workers)*	1,713.0	1,744.8	1,729.4	1,732.2	1,758.3	1,746.2	1,745.3	1,774.6	1,774.9	1,732.8	1,754.8	1,759.6	1,765.8	1,777.0	1,777.0
Unemployment	247.0	235.1	225.0	222.2	232.0	214.3	214.5	220.7	223.1	197.0	238.4	227.9	218.0	197.1	185.5
Unemployment rate	14.4	13.5	13.0	12.8	13.2	12.3	12.3	12.4	12.6	11.4	13.6	13.0	12.3	11.1	10.4
Employment	1,466.0	1,509.7	1,504.4	1,510.0	1,526.3	1,531.9	1,530.8	1,553.9	1,551.8	1,535.8	1,516.4	1,531.7	1,547.8	1,579.9	1,591.5
Nonagricultural	1,312.5	1,318.4	1,320.9	1,331.6	1,332.0	1,323.7	1,326.5	1,334.8	1,336.6	1,338.8	1,324.4	1,330.2	1,333.0	1,345.7	1,348.8
Manufacturing	337.8	338.2	337.8	340.9	337.4	344.8	345.5	346.0	346.3	345.6	344.6	345.2	346.6	351.1	351.8
Durable goods	159.1	157.6	157.3	157.6	157.9	160.9	161.1	161.9	162.6	162.2	161.9	162.9	165.4	167.0	167.5
Lumber and wood products	25.1	27.6	27.7	28.5	28.5	28.6	28.7	28.6	28.4	28.3	27.8	28.2	28.8	28.9	29.0
Stone, clay, glass products	8.6	8.7	8.8	8.9	8.9	9.0	9.0	8.8	8.7	8.6	8.6	8.7	8.8	9.1	9.0
Primary metals	29.6	24.8	25.0	24.7	24.3	24.9	24.5	24.6	24.6	24.8	25.2	25.2	26.2	26.2	26.4
Blast furn. and steel works	8.8	5.7	6.0	6.1	5.5	5.7	5.2	5.3	5.5	6.1	6.6	7.1	7.7	7.7	7.8
Iron and steel foundries	11.4	10.5	10.3	10.3	10.4	10.7	10.7	10.7	10.5	9.9	10.6	9.6	10.0	10.1	10.2
Fabricated metals	22.8	21.7	21.5	21.4	21.7	21.9	22.0	22.2	22.4	22.4	22.0	22.2	22.2	22.4	22.4
Machinery (excl. electrical)	.....	14.8	14.7	15.0	14.9	15.1	15.1	15.2	15.3	15.3	15.4	15.6	15.9	15.9	16.1
Electrical, electronic equip.	.....	21.4	21.2	21.5	21.7	21.9	22.0	22.0	22.3	22.3	22.5	22.9	22.9	23.2	23.3
Transportation	22.6	21.5	21.2	19.9	20.2	21.8	22.0	22.6	22.7	22.4	22.5	22.6	22.9	23.3	23.4
Other durable goods	16.0	17.2	17.2	17.7	17.7	17.7	17.8	17.9	18.2	18.1	17.9	17.5	17.7	18.0	17.9
Nondurable goods	178.8	180.6	180.5	183.3	179.5	183.9	184.4	184.1	183.7	183.4	182.7	182.3	181.2	184.1	184.3
Food	26.5	26.9	26.8	27.2	27.3	27.4	27.4	27.5	27.2	27.1	26.9	26.5	26.5	26.7	26.8
Textile mill products	38.8	39.1	38.8	39.6	37.6	39.6	40.2	40.3	40.3	40.4	40.4	40.3	40.4	40.4	40.2
Apparel	53.0	54.3	54.4	55.6	53.8	55.4	56.0	55.5	55.4	55.1	54.4	54.7	53.6	55.7	56.2
Paper and allied products	21.0	21.4	21.4	21.8	21.9	22.1	21.5	21.4	21.4	21.3	21.3	21.1	20.8	21.2	21.0
Printing and publishing	10.2	10.3	10.4	10.4	10.4	10.4	10.3	10.3	10.3	10.5	10.6	10.6	10.6	10.8	10.7
Chemicals and allied products	13.1	11.8	11.8	11.8	11.5	11.8	11.8	11.9	11.8	11.8	11.9	11.8	11.9	11.9	11.9
Rubber products	13.8	14.6	14.7	14.7	14.8	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.1	15.1	15.1	15.2	15.3	15.3	15.4
Other nondurable goods	2.4	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
Nonmanufacturing	974.7	980.1	983.1	990.7	994.6	978.9	981.0	988.8	990.3	993.2	979.8	985.0	986.4	994.6	997.0
Mining and quarrying	16.2	13.6	13.4	13.6	13.7	13.6	12.9	13.3	13.6	13.5	13.1	13.8	13.7	13.9	14.0
Bituminous coal mining	12.1	10.3	10.2	10.3	10.5	10.4	9.7	10.1	10.4	9.5	9.1	9.8	9.6	9.9	9.9
Contract construction	56.8	59.4	59.3	61.6	62.0	62.6	62.7	62.6	63.0	62.4	60.1	60.7	60.4	62.6	63.3
Trans., comm., and utilities	71.1	69.7	70.1	70.9	70.7	64.6	70.7	71.3	70.9	71.1	70.6	71.3	71.6	71.4	71.9
Trade	267.4	271.0	269.3	272.5	272.7	273.0	273.7	275.5	278.0	282.1	273.9	272.9	274.1	277.5	278.8
Wholesale	70.0	69.7	69.2	70.3	70.2	70.3	70.4	70.6	70.8	70.7	70.8	71.2	71.3	71.6	71.7
Retail	197.4	201.3	200.1	202.2	202.5	202.7	203.3	204.9	207.2	211.4	203.1	201.7	202.8	205.9	207.1
Finance, insurance, real estate	58.8	59.4	59.3	60.1	60.3	60.2	59.8	59.6	59.6	59.6	59.8	60.0	60.3	60.6	61.1
Service and miscellaneous	214.4	217.8	218.0	219.8	219.8	219.8	219.7	219.6	218.6	218.3	216.3	218.3	219.2	220.4	220.0
Government	290.1	289.2	293.7	292.2	295.4	285.1	281.5	286.9	286.6	286.2	286.0	288.0	287.1	288.2	287.9
Federal	65.1	64.6	64.5	65.4	65.5	65.4	64.9	64.3	64.1	64.0	63.9	63.7	63.6	63.9	64.2
State and local	224.9	224.6	229.2	226.8	229.9	219.7	216.6	222.6	222.5	222.2	222.1	224.3	223.5	224.3	223.7

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS FOR ALABAMA—CONTINUED

Type of Activity	Annual		1983								1984				
	1982	1983	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT—CONT.															
Other employment activity															
State Employment Service *(number)*															
Job applications	176,752	207,309	18,495	21,778	20,987	19,505	17,884	14,485	14,784	11,998	17,938	16,014	16,084	14,672	17,512
Nonagricultural placements	66,900	91,100	6,942	10,753	15,126	10,484	7,499	7,117	6,071	5,114	5,741	5,509	6,477	7,082	7,314
Unemployment compensation															
Initial benefit claims *(number)*	632,290	428,181	26,892	25,293	49,017	29,803	24,506	27,873	28,728	35,738	75,004	29,677	28,150	24,214	25,009
Payments *($1,000)*	233,984	191,868	14,783	14,873	13,217	15,186	13,556	11,656	12,540	13,999	18,452	15,901	15,566	11,949	13,048
County data *(civilian labor force and unemployment rate)*															
Autauga	15,080	15,780	15,890	15,930	15,770	15,590	15,610	15,710	15,680	15,460	15,530	15,420	15,460	15,600	15,560
	15.0	14.1	13.9	13.5	12.6	11.5	11.8	11.6	11.7	10.8	12.7	11.3	10.5	9.7	8.9
Baldwin	33,390	33,830	34,000	34,400	34,910	34,040	33,640	33,970	33,950	33,760	34,310	34,670	34,600	34,300	33,850
	12.1	12.3	12.4	11.4	12.6	11.3	11.3	11.0	11.3	11.8	14.0	13.7	12.6	10.3	8.8
Barbour	11,510	11,980	12,250	12,160	12,320	12,130	12,040	12,090	11,800	11,520	11,610	11,660	11,580	11,920	12,030
	16.2	13.1	12.7	12.7	13.3	12.8	11.1	10.9	10.9	10.8	13.0	12.2	10.2	9.6	9.1
Bibb	5,670	5,940	6,100	6,250	6,180	5,620	5,820	5,770	5,770	5,690	6,040	5,790	5,990	5,920	5,950
	22.8	19.6	19.0	17.6	17.2	16.2	17.9	15.0	15.4	18.0	25.3	20.0	19.6	19.1	16.8
Blount	14,050	13,520	13,960	13,690	13,680	13,440	13,510	13,730	13,130	12,890	12,870	13,020	13,200	13,290	13,360
	19.9	18.1	18.8	18.7	19.1	16.0	15.2	14.2	14.7	14.0	17.1	16.8	21.0	13.6	11.6
Bullock	4,480	4,530	4,510	4,590	4,690	4,720	4,770	4,820	4,660	4,410	4,230	4,250	4,250	4,390	4,510
	18.3	17.2	15.5	17.7	20.1	18.4	15.0	14.3	14.9	15.2	16.1	14.1	13.3	11.6	11.0
Butler	9,960	9,900	9,920	9,820	10,020	9,900	9,910	10,250	9,940	9,720	9,900	9,770	9,810	9,830	9,900
	20.3	17.3	17.8	18.2	17.9	15.9	14.0	15.2	13.3	12.0	16.7	15.5	15.1	13.2	12.6
Calhoun	45,620	46,560	46,800	47,050	47,340	46,910	46,350	46,850	46,310	46,520	47,170	47,220	47,470	47,820	47,820
	15.1	13.1	14.3	13.7	13.2	12.0	10.9	11.5	10.8	11.3	12.9	12.2	11.7	10.0	9.5
Chambers	16,280	16,920	16,940	17,290	17,460	17,230	16,790	17,070	16,880	16,760	16,760	16,850	16,950	17,050	17,160
	11.3	9.8	9.6	10.1	11.2	9.7	7.8	8.7	8.3	7.8	8.8	9.3	8.8	8.9	9.9
Cherokee	11,390	11,400	11,960	11,580	11,120	10,910	11,600	11,770	11,430	10,860	11,090	11,110	11,120	11,680	11,640
	14.8	15.4	12.6	12.9	19.4	17.4	9.7	13.4	10.2	11.1	14.5	17.4	20.8	11.3	11.2
Chilton	13,450	15,420	15,780	15,420	15,600	15,650	15,580	15,820	15,640	15,360	15,490	15,540	15,650	15,710	15,880
	15.6	13.3	14.0	12.6	12.0	11.5	10.9	10.3	10.7	10.5	12.7	11.7	11.7	11.1	10.4
Choctaw	5,280	5,560	5,730	5,590	5,830	5,570	5,430	5,510	5,440	5,500	5,610	5,650	5,660	5,650	5,670
	15.3	15.2	16.8	16.1	19.0	14.7	12.9	12.6	11.4	12.8	15.2	16.1	15.9	13.8	14.7
Clarke	10,450	10,810	10,840	11,240	11,090	10,800	10,580	10,620	10,580	10,560	10,870	10,680	10,780	10,640	10,650
	15.9	16.2	16.8	18.1	17.0	14.6	13.4	13.2	13.6	13.8	15.9	14.9	13.8	12.7	12.7
Clay	7,400	7,520	7,540	7,370	7,720	7,470	7,590	7,690	7,670	7,510	7,650	7,670	7,840	7,950	7,930
	13.5	13.8	15.8	15.2	17.4	12.9	11.8	11.3	11.3	10.7	12.3	11.8	10.8	9.8	10.3
Cleburne	5,080	5,210	5,290	5,190	5,180	5,050	5,290	5,280	5,190	5,160	5,090	5,100	5,130	5,150	5,120
	14.5	12.5	13.3	13.3	11.0	9.6	10.0	9.6	9.7	9.7	11.2	10.9	10.8	8.7	8.4
Coffee	19,410	20,040	20,370	20,190	20,360	20,320	20,440	20,340	20,020	19,700	19,430	20,030	20,030	20,120	20,240
	11.8	10.8	11.1	10.1	10.7	9.8	8.8	8.5	8.9	9.6	10.2	10.5	9.8	8.1	8.2
Colbert	23,620	24,050	24,390	24,270	24,490	24,040	23,600	23,710	23,500	23,520	23,760	24,310	24,140	24,310	23,880
	19.0	18.5	18.7	17.8	18.6	17.4	16.4	15.8	15.3	15.5	19.0	20.1	18.3	17.8	16.0
Conecuh	6,820	7,010	7,000	7,060	7,090	7,040	7,100	7,060	6,970	7,120	7,050	7,010	7,130	7,260	7,370
	13.9	12.7	12.9	12.3	12.3	11.1	12.6	11.7	12.3	13.7	13.7	14.1	12.6	11.1	10.0
Coosa	5,630	5,570	5,680	5,460	5,610	5,480	5,590	5,610	5,600	5,520	5,510	5,520	5,460	5,610	5,580
	10.8	10.3	11.7	10.6	11.6	9.5	8.1	7.7	8.2	7.8	9.0	8.8	7.8	7.5	6.5
Covington	15,630	16,340	16,600	16,530	16,710	16,690	16,590	16,580	16,500	16,160	16,280	16,570	16,360	16,370	16,370
	13.5	12.3	11.4	10.7	14.9	12.3	10.9	10.3	11.1	11.3	12.8	13.4	11.6	10.1	9.0
Crenshaw	6,830	7,220	7,460	7,410	7,790	7,340	7,570	7,640	7,250	6,820	6,750	6,810	6,920	7,170	7,440
	13.8	12.1	10.9	11.4	24.3	10.8	9.9	8.6	8.3	8.6	12.5	11.9	12.7	10.3	10.6
Cullman	27,400	28,710	29,370	28,960	29,190	28,570	29,050	29,480	28,830	28,050	28,430	28,700	29,070	29,160	29,300
	17.2	14.7	14.9	14.1	14.4	12.5	11.9	11.1	10.9	10.7	14.2	14.6	12.9	10.6	9.6
Dale	12,410	12,980	13,270	13,040	13,210	12,950	12,760	13,110	12,890	12,630	12,760	12,780	12,980	12,980	13,080
	13.1	13.7	13.8	13.4	14.2	12.6	11.6	11.8	12.1	11.5	12.8	13.3	13.7	11.4	11.0
Dallas	23,870	23,640	23,860	24,310	24,420	23,830	23,440	23,540	23,370	22,910	23,360	23,400	23,260	23,480	23,220
	17.3	17.5	17.8	17.2	18.0	16.3	15.5	15.2	15.3	14.7	17.0	16.6	15.6	15.5	14.3
DeKalb	28,460	29,950	30,370	30,700	31,260	30,580	30,100	30,200	29,530	28,890	29,440	29,310	29,580	30,100	30,290
	13.4	13.8	13.4	13.4	14.7	12.0	12.1	13.0	12.3	11.6	14.5	12.7	12.0	10.8	10.1
Elmore	19,880	20,770	21,350	21,460	21,150	21,020	20,680	20,780	20,570	20,250	20,170	20,220	20,390	20,570	20,670
	13.3	12.2	13.8	13.6	12.3	11.7	10.4	10.1	9.5	8.4	9.6	9.1	8.8	8.0	7.7
Escambia	16,470	17,430	17,770	17,810	17,890	17,360	17,340	17,360	17,410	17,440	17,560	17,610	17,420	17,610	17,680
	13.2	12.6	13.2	12.8	13.7	12.4	11.3	11.3	12.1	12.6	14.3	13.5	11.8	11.3	11.3
Etowah	42,720	42,450	43,010	42,520	42,830	42,350	41,440	41,890	41,720	41,370	41,660	41,700	41,500	41,810	41,700
	20.5	17.5	17.2	16.6	17.0	15.3	14.0	14.0	14.2	13.5	15.8	15.3	14.3	13.4	11.7
Fayette	9,830	10,170	10,210	10,260	10,200	10,100	10,330	10,450	10,310	10,160	10,160	10,170	10,340	10,490	10,550
	11.4	11.7	11.6	10.5	11.7	10.9	10.7	9.6	9.4	9.7	10.5	9.7	9.9	8.9	8.1
Franklin	13,310	14,200	14,150	14,590	15,010	14,530	14,500	14,440	14,320	14,010	15,060	15,190	15,390	14,930	14,910
	18.4	18.2	15.3	16.2	24.4	15.9	15.9	15.5	16.6	16.6	25.7	23.0	22.1	18.3	17.2
Geneva	10,800	11,400	11,690	11,740	11,680	11,450	11,570	11,950	11,600	11,470	11,330	11,320	11,430	11,670	11,830
	11.4	10.5	11.1	9.8	10.9	9.9	8.5	8.3	8.3	9.4	10.2	9.4	8.9	8.4	7.7
Greene	4,560	4,610	4,640	4,630	4,610	4,510	4,560	4,590	4,480	4,420	4,610	4,700	4,640	4,780	4,730
	17.0	16.7	16.0	15.6	15.3	14.1	13.3	12.7	13.5	15.4	21.5	21.4	17.7	16.8	14.6
Hale	4,980	5,310	5,410	5,300	5,550	5,260	5,360	5,460	5,340	5,270	5,380	5,310	5,310	5,450	5,440
	20.7	16.6	15.3	15.1	19.3	13.5	13.0	12.8	14.8	18.2	22.6	19.6	17.9	16.8	15.0
Henry	7,010	7,260	7,590	7,330	7,360	7,260	7,480	7,670	7,410	7,140	7,020	7,100	7,050	7,390	7,540
	12.2	11.2	11.7	11.9	12.5	10.7	10.0	9.1	9.3	9.4	11.5	10.2	8.6	8.4	8.3
Houston	39,040	40,070	40,670	40,540	41,010	40,360	40,720	41,050	40,160	39,630	39,610	39,840	40,080	40,770	41,060
	10.0	10.8	11.4	11.0	12.4	10.5	10.0	9.7	9.4	9.2	10.4	9.4	8.9	8.6	8.7
Jackson	21,080	20,800	20,830	20,990	21,480	20,280	20,690	20,980	20,320	19,980	19,810	19,930	19,660	19,640	19,440
	20.4	22.0	20.8	21.9	23.6	17.6	18.8	19.5	19.0	20.7	22.0	21.8	19.3	16.4	14.5
Jefferson	306,120	310,270	313,250	313,520	315,270	310,460	308,350	307,640	305,340	303,270	306,020	305,750	308,780	310,420	309,110
	13.8	12.8	13.0	12.7	12.5	11.8	11.6	10.8	10.7	10.1	11.6	10.7	10.9	9.9	9.2
Lamar	8,330	8,820	9,120	8,910	8,880	8,670	8,780	8,960	8,900	8,730	8,830	8,940	8,980	9,100	9,060
	13.5	9.8	10.4	11.0	9.9	8.7	8.2	7.9	8.4	7.3	8.9	8.2	7.5	7.5	7.2
Lauderdale	34,260	34,810	35,060	35,480	35,810	34,840	34,370	34,610	34,220	34,350	34,800	35,380	35,280	34,890	34,530
	17.5	16.9	16.4	17.0	17.7	15.8	15.2	14.8	14.0	14.5	18.3	18.8	17.4	15.4	14.2
Lawrence	14,310	14,490	14,950	14,760	14,840	14,140	13,910	13,990	13,680	13,380	13,650	13,720	13,660	13,870	13,880
	18.9	18.7	18.0	18.2	18.1	16.8	16.2	15.7	16.0	16.9	19.1	18.9	16.8	16.3	15.5
Lee	34,330	36,140	36,600	37,020	36,280	36,600	36,370	37,120	36,770	35,890	36,440	36,770	36,650	37,140	37,420
	9.4	8.4	8.1	9.0	8.7	8.0	7.2	6.9	6.5	6.0	7.3	7.2	6.4	6.6	6.2
Limestone	22,840	23,940	24,200	23,910	23,890	24,030	24,200	24,180	24,040	23,780	24,290	24,430	24,300	24,780	24,770
	13.6	11.0	11.7	9.7	9.2	8.9	9.0	8.6	9.0	8.5	11.2	11.1	9.7	9.6	8.5
Lowndes	4,960	5,320	5,350	5,290	5,370	5,400	5,490	5,560	5,420	5,290	5,260	5,270	5,180	5,390	5,360
	19.2	17.6	17.4	18.3	18.7	18.1	16.0	16.0	14.0	14.3	19.3	18.3	17.7	19.7	17.7
Macon	7,820	8,000	8,050	8,160	8,120	8,160	8,030	8,090	7,800	7,760	7,810	7,810	7,780	7,930	8,000
	14.9	13.5	13.7	16.4	15.2	14.6	11.4	11.2	11.1	11.4	12.7	11.9	10.6	10.5	9.6
Madison	94,570	100,410	100,760	102,320	101,810	102,590	102,490	103,030	102,090	100,970	102,220	102,160	104,170	104,170	104,860
	10.7	9.2	9.2	9.6	8.8	8.6	8.0	8.1	8.2	7.7	9.7	9.0	9.8	7.9	7.5
Marengo	9,690	9,920	9,820	9,950	10,210	9,840	9,790	9,860	9,790	9,640	9,860	9,800	9,970	9,960	9,960
	15.4	15.4	16.5	16.7	17.1	13.4	12.2	11.7	12.1	12.9	15.0	14.2	15.0	12.7	11.7
Marion	13,300	13,760	13,970	14,010	14,320	13,810	13,490	13,500	13,580	13,250	13,550	13,490	13,490	13,420	13,320
	18.3	19.4	20.5	20.3	20.5	17.4	16.2	16.1	17.7	15.6	18.6	17.6	16.4	14.2	12.3
Marshall	33,020	34,920	34,720	35,290	37,360	35,030	35,200	35,260	35,020	34,960	35,930	36,000	35,470	35,910	35,770
	14.8	13.0	12.2	12.7	17.2	10.9	10.8	10.6	10.9	11.2	14.4	14.0	11.8	11.0	9.6
Mobile	158,750	163,820	166,170	169,130	169,240	167,360	163,240	163,950	161,260	158,890	163,040	163,710	164,260	164,740	164,340
	14.0	15.9	16.7	16.3	16.2	16.2	15.1	14.3	13.3	12.9	15.9	15.1	14.5	13.3	12.8

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS FOR ALABAMA—CONTINUED

Type of Activity	Annual		1983								1984				
	1982	1983	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT—CONT															
County data *(civilian labor force and unemployment rate)* —continued															
Monroe	10,360	10,770	11,020	10,890	10,920	10,860	10,820	10,950	10,980	10,900	10,940	10,950	10,900	11,010	10,840
	14.2	12.6	13.7	12.3	12.2	11.4	10.9	11.7	12.6	12.4	15.6	14.9	13.4	12.6	10.1
Montgomery	88,090	92,650	93,050	94,690	94,460	93,700	93,230	94,230	93,970	92,810	92,730	93,380	93,460	94,480	94,540
	11.1	10.6	10.2	11.1	10.8	10.0	9.8	10.0	10.0	9.3	10.7	10.6	9.6	9.0	8.4
Morgan	37,450	37,990	38,520	38,770	38,810	38,190	37,970	37,960	37,520	37,080	37,630	37,490	37,810	38,060	38,070
	16.1	14.5	14.6	14.3	14.4	13.6	13.0	12.8	12.4	11.9	14.5	13.6	13.7	12.4	11.6
Perry	5,690	5,860	5,960	6,050	6,010	5,940	5,910	5,950	5,870	5,780	5,840	5,690	5,660	5,730	5,780
	15.7	14.8	14.2	14.5	14.2	13.6	11.6	11.2	15.7	19.2	22.4	15.1	12.1	10.8	10.0
Pickens	7,550	7,630	7,830	7,720	7,790	7,620	7,590	7,650	7,510	7,600	7,500	7,540	7,450	7,590	7,730
	19.7	17.7	21.5	20.3	17.9	15.7	14.4	14.2	13.3	16.3	17.9	17.3	15.8	15.2	16.4
Pike	13,260	13,770	14,310	13,780	13,990	13,660	13,710	14,370	13,890	12,960	13,360	13,420	13,590	13,680	13,870
	13.4	13.7	13.5	14.0	14.8	13.3	11.9	10.6	10.8	11.9	12.0	11.8	12.0	9.6	8.9
Randolph	9,710	9,170	9,270	9,030	9,710	9,040	8,880	9,310	9,050	8,950	8,890	8,830	8,780	8,820	8,880
	21.7	17.8	16.6	17.3	24.5	16.4	12.7	12.1	12.7	13.8	18.0	16.2	15.9	13.1	12.9
Russell	17,990	18,320	18,360	18,490	18,590	18,510	18,080	18,230	18,190	18,210	19,480	18,890	18,560	18,790	18,930
	16.7	13.7	14.4	13.1	12.8	11.5	11.7	11.6	11.2	11.5	17.9	14.3	12.1	11.8	11.9
St. Clair	18,980	19,350	19,600	19,320	19,240	19,000	19,090	19,070	19,100	19,280	19,310	19,470	19,030	19,280	19,110
	14.7	14.2	14.6	13.1	12.0	11.6	12.4	11.7	12.4	13.2	14.0	13.9	11.3	10.9	9.8
Shelby	29,940	30,510	31,080	30,670	30,930	30,580	30,380	30,570	30,230	30,220	30,890	30,650	30,300	30,740	30,910
	13.0	12.4	13.4	11.9	11.9	11.6	11.4	11.4	10.9	10.9	13.6	12.1	10.3	10.1	10.3
Sumter	6,810	6,990	7,050	7,170	7,250	7,120	6,900	7,100	7,110	6,850	7,060	7,040	7,170	7,220	7,180
	17.7	14.3	13.6	16.2	16.7	13.7	10.6	11.1	11.8	9.9	12.2	11.1	12.0	13.3	10.1
Talladega	30,840	32,030	32,370	32,270	32,590	32,380	32,240	32,440	31,670	31,300	31,730	31,670	31,920	32,210	31,900
	19.2	17.1	18.0	17.6	17.4	16.2	14.8	14.2	13.5	13.0	15.0	14.6	14.7	14.5	13.5
Tallapoosa	16,900	16,580	16,460	16,910	17,390	16,780	16,510	16,660	16,560	16,620	16,850	16,970	17,080	17,220	17,160
	13.5	12.2	12.6	12.5	15.7	12.0	9.8	10.3	9.6	9.9	10.6	10.2	9.8	8.7	8.0
Tuscaloosa	55,530	56,520	57,270	56,520	56,610	56,210	55,900	56,800	56,540	56,400	56,910	57,500	58,020	58,090	58,180
	12.6	12.5	13.4	13.1	12.8	12.1	10.9	10.9	10.5	10.3	11.8	11.2	11.1	9.7	10.3
Walker	31,760	32,980	33,450	33,080	33,410	32,860	32,630	33,300	32,910	33,020	33,440	33,350	33,330	32,570	32,520
	15.0	16.1	16.7	15.4	15.6	14.8	14.6	15.7	15.2	15.6	17.3	16.3	15.5	12.1	11.7
Washington	6,200	6,380	6,530	6,630	6,740	6,420	6,530	6,500	6,340	6,210	6,330	6,400	6,550	6,510	6,770
	16.9	20.0	21.9	21.4	22.6	18.6	17.5	16.4	15.8	15.7	17.8	18.1	18.0	16.1	18.5
Wilcox	6,380	5,860	6,090	5,720	5,590	5,500	5,590	5,680	5,490	5,320	5,340	5,380	5,230	5,340	5,410
	18.7	20.3	20.6	20.8	19.5	18.4	18.3	18.1	17.6	17.1	18.8	18.0	17.2	16.1	16.0
Winston	8,480	9,150	9,250	9,360	9,510	9,280	9,170	9,290	9,170	8,960	9,570	9,850	9,450	9,450	9,500
	22.5	18.6	17.3	16.9	17.3	16.3	14.8	15.3	16.2	16.5	23.4	25.8	20.0	17.9	18.4
TRADE															
Foreign, through Port of Mobile															
Imports															
Value *($1,000)*	551,093	643,182	72,807	49,281	33,162	70,692	22,392	85,365	50,213	46,894	51,145	40,064	53,684	72,261	83,186
Shipping weight *(1,000,000 lbs.)*	8,142	6,288	560	353	343	819	430	826	757	423	583	508	232	718	905
Exports															
Value *($1,000)*	1,222,158	788,611	60,503	71,690	51,007	33,212	51,981	64,610	81,993	64,282	69,760	39,449	46,631	32,516	60,111
Shipping weight *(1,000,000 lbs.)*	14,577	9,496	898	1,150	610	344	524	547	546	868	1,731	1,283	1,667	2,096	1,930
Shipments by water, Port of Mobile[a] *(1,000 tons)*	39,655	34,916	3,051	3,268	2,560	3,013	2,812	2,948	3,118	2,653	3,017	2,522	3,015	3,110	3,286
Domestic															
Electric energy consumption, non-industrial purposes *(1,000,000 kwh)*	22,680	23,017	1,490	1,678	2,149	2,571	2,547	1,798	1,588	1,884	2,494	2,093	1,793	1,604	1,607
Gasoline sales[b] *(1,000 gallons)*	1,840,396	1,861,406	158,764	159,700	159,303	165,359	153,217	153,174	148,354	168,460	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New passenger car registrations[10] *(number)*	100,717	122,393	11,620	10,660	11,039	10,012	11,288	10,378	10,295	11,751	10,453	11,116	11,051	11,616	13,890
Retail sales by kind of business, state totals[11] *($1,000,000)*															
Food	3,634	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
General stores with food and gas	331	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
General merchandise	2,292	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Apparel	499	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Furniture, furnishings, etc	534	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Automotive	2,690	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Gasoline service stations	1,342	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Lumber and building materials	778	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Hardware and farm implements	351	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Eating places	1,112	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Drug stores	536	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
All other retail	2,433	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total sales by retail concerns	16,530	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Nonretail and unclassified concerns	4,749	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total all sales at retail	21,279	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Retail sales, Metropolitan Statistical Areas and counties[11] *($1,000)*															
MSAs															
Anniston	432,037	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Birmingham	5,604,600	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dothan	.....	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Florence	371,705	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Gadsden	395,827	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Huntsville	1,064,650	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mobile	2,131,321	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Montgomery	1,224,760	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tuscaloosa	552,075	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Counties															
Autauga	107,927	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Baldwin	366,715	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Barbour	62,778	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Bibb	27,761	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Blount	80,384	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Bullock	59,766	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Butler	61,385	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Calhoun	432,037	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Chambers	91,694	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cherokee	52,267	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Chilton	92,525	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Choctaw	50,700	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Clarke	89,267	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Clay	26,957	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cleburne	24,342	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Coffee	142,602	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

Please see table on Page 2

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS FOR ALABAMA—CONTINUED

Type of Activity	Annual		1983								1984				
	1982	1983	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May
TRADE—CONTINUED															
Retail sales, MSAs and counties—continued															
Counties—continued															
Colbert	296,642	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Conecuh	34,109	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Coosa	20,855	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Covington	140,600	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Crenshaw	32,420	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cullman	248,962	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dale	97,392	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dallas	188,352	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
DeKalb	171,545	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Elmore	82,262	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Escambia	133,511	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Etowah	395,827	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Fayette	85,349	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Franklin	88,064	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Geneva	146,372	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Greene	21,917	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Hale	35,115	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Henry	40,210	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Houston	430,944	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Jackson	147,971	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Jefferson	4,911,771	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Lamar	37,354	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Lauderdale	275,063	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Lawrence	64,612	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Lee	291,706	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Limestone	148,159	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Lowndes	23,153	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Macon	42,695	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Madison	859,741	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Marengo	87,042	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Marion	69,720	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Marshall	267,967	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mobile	1,764,606	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Monroe	103,747	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Montgomery	1,034,571	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Morgan	476,700	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Perry	28,382	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pickens	51,737	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pike	83,838	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Randolph	54,925	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Russell	95,486	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
St. Clair	105,453	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Shelby	261,472	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sumter	34,465	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Talladega	219,173	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tallapoosa	122,749	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tuscaloosa	552,075	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Walker	286,965	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Washington	29,920	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wilcox	35,627	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Winston	64,854	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Statewide[1]	4,185,970	.....									.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
BUILDING PERMITS[2]															
Alabama															
Building permits *($1,000)*															
Reported value	712,696	1,079,085	108,222	72,677	93,959	120,559	96,165	86,676	162,881	76,349	65,449	75,497	99,328	193,079	97,366
Residential	237,082	449,881	47,803	32,005	39,580	47,066	34,835	43,819	42,063	27,533	24,927	38,376	39,447	46,811	38,102
Nonresidential	300,343	366,127	34,301	20,565	26,714	35,834	29,816	19,695	95,659	33,868	22,711	21,524	32,351	130,709	42,724
In selected cities															
Anniston															
Building permits *($1,000)*															
Reported value	5,965	8,848	850	905	826	895	794	818	718	693	595	644	790	788	915
Residential	2,700	3,593	341	346	306	309	263	268	261	231	247	255	317	317	408
Nonresidential	442	932	96	112	92	124	106	109	101	81	75	93	126	113	117
Birmingham															
Building permits *($1,000)*															
Reported Value	109,048	213,343	23,569	8,012	7,729	14,059	30,767	9,544	83,104	6,605	5,689	4,413	8,945	7,619	5,562
Residential	13,918	31,921	9,643	1,221	1,378	1,317	2,529	4,275	904	885	1,100	1,574	2,100	2,551	814
Nonresidential	61,839	108,370	2,177	1,911	1,855	7,416	12,498	767	70,397	526	985	530	1,071	90	768
Decatur															
Building permits *($1,000)*															
Reported value	8,551	14,095	1,154	1,235	1,167	1,367	1,424	1,278	1,004	789	912	1,111	1,075	1,106	1,520
Residential	2,937	7,340	722	770	741	918	995	862	663	267	673	845	739	739	1,096
Nonresidential	3,812	2,156	163	177	150	155	156	140	116	32	73	81	115	139	172
Dothan															
Building permits *($1,000)*															
Reported value	28,821	18,943	695	1,073	1,388	1,340	700	3,402	2,191	2,952	1,075	1,064	1,568	1,353	1,326
Residential	5,626	7,760	326	475	350	366	316	2,412	805	351	444	631	685	695	448
Nonresidential	9,720	6,339	59	176	468	319	40	367	1,127	2,146	457	100	452	518	238
Gadsden															
Building permits *($1,000)*															
Reported value	10,429	13,596	1,351	529	4,695	354	549	550	1,389	1,189	656	530	214	565	1,351
Residential	1,517	2,006	273	194	170	282	224	329	75	61	110	57	92	347	976
Nonresidential	3,271	3,912	378	271	161	2	271	201	1,283	1,104	24	452	102	163	122
Huntsville															
Building permits *($1,000)*															
Reported value	58,302	122,759	15,688	10,765	12,423	17,391	8,823	20,834	9,742	6,919	6,115	16,817	12,836	8,111	13,997
Residential	18,311	51,350	4,390	3,263	9,556	7,145	2,171	10,578	1,598	1,939	2,203	7,732	4,874	4,843	3,753
Nonresidential	14,238	45,128	10,098	5,693	669	6,403	5,166	3,320	5,238	3,809	2,270	5,358	7,169	2,413	8,366
Mobile															
Building permits *($1,000)*															
Reported value	83,675	109,508	14,828	3,923	14,352	13,411	5,161	6,093	8,760	10,475	3,718	5,366	17,080	116,254	6,250
Residential	19,544	38,261	4,337	1,334	1,132	1,810	1,127	990	1,586	7,313	984	1,470	1,424	2,639	2,009
Nonresidential	43,701	49,663	9,054	664	11,007	10,337	1,465	2,188	5,173	2,058	1,419	2,488	4,160	112,221	3,331

Please see table on Page 2

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS FOR ALABAMA—CONTINUED

Type of Activity	Annual		1983								1984				
	1982	1983	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May
BUILDING PERMITS —CONTINUED															
Montgomery															
Building permits *($1,000)*															
Reported value	52,352	76,984	7,877	6,777	6,275	6,829	6,315	6,326	5,764	5,127	14,164	5,100	6,477	6,330	6,994
Residential	15,363	32,619	3,407	2,568	2,473	2,354	2,081	2,108	2,278	1,874	2,436	2,131	2,462	2,509	2,493
Nonresidential	22,178	28,264	3,265	2,542	2,205	2,762	2,652	2,596	2,170	1,856	9,934	1,882	2,727	2,496	3,043
Quad-Cities[11]															
Building permits *($1,000)*															
Reported value	18,563	12,978	1,247	1,244	1,612	1,361	1,250	852	1,360	699	2,642	1,410	4,666	2,443	4,910
Residential	7,481	6,391	451	640	473	513	623	428	874	166	480	754	1,298	700	792
Nonresidential	5,722	3,506	176	261	737	705	380	337	123	100	207	585	3,031	1,079	3,887
Selma															
Building permits *($1,000)*															
Reported value	2,757	4,197	635	115	336	103	901	67	98	356	1,826	213	219	1,019	356
Residential	987	357	125	30	.....	20	.....	.....	65	20	.....	.....	24	87	82
Nonresidential	1,739	798	384	10	275	20	18	30	1	.....	3	133	36	717	35
Tuscaloosa															
Building permits *($1,000)*															
Reported value	21,418	30,159	3,023	3,600	2,862	3,340	3,777	1,814	1,809	613	1,505	2,647	3,328	1,804	4,323
Residential	6,592	14,849	1,674	1,205	2,338	1,194	1,378	396	717	407	1,032	1,163	2,097	988	2,153
Nonresidential	8,408	6,227	424	569	187	1,221	711	527	599	3	132	929	573	277	1,529

NOTE: Throughout this table, details do not necessarily add to totals due to rounding. [1]Estimated total for calendar month based on adjustment of weekly data.
[2]Individual months may not add to annual totals due to late revisions in annual data.
[3]These data may not be reused in any manner without the express permission of F. W. Dodge Div., McGraw-Hill Information Co.
[4]End-of-month balance.
[5]Beginning January 1978, the Consumer Price Index consists of "All Urban Consumers." Prior to that date, it included only "Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers." Historical data will not be available due to the change in coverage. No "Energy" data are available prior to 1978, and "Housing" data prior to January 1978 are not comparable to the new "Housing" series due to a change in definition.
[6]These data were previously presented as the "Wholesale Price Index." The new title more accurately reflects the coverage of the data.
[7]Civilian labor force, unemployment, and total employment are adjusted by place of residence, and total nonagricultural employment and its components are by place of work. All monthly data are adjusted to a March benchmark of the previous year.
[8]Includes both inbound and outbound shipments by water moving through private facilities as well as through the Alabama State Docks; excludes tonnage for military installations.
[9]Excludes sales to federal government.
[10]These data may not be reused in any manner without the express permission of R. L. Polk and Company.
[11]Retail sales data represent sales at retail as reported to the Alabama Department of Revenue under the definition of the Alabama Sales Tax Law. Total sales figures include sales at retail by wholesalers and other nonretail firms as well as retail concerns. Sales at retail thus defined should not be confused with all sales (including nonretail sales) by retail concerns as reported in the *Census of Retail Trade*. **Monthly sales figures are preliminary and subject to revision on a continuing basis. Sales figure for the two latest months are normally low because they do not yet include data from late reporters. Retail sales historical data prior to 1977 are not available for the new series. Birmingham and Huntsville MSA sales data after June 1983 are not directly comparable with earlier data because county designations were changed. The "Statewide" category in the "County" section provides sales figures which are not attributable to individual counties; it does not represent a state total.**
[12]Represents permits issued by selected permit-issuing places. Private construction only. May be partially estimated by the Bureau of the Census. "Reported value" includes additions and alterations and is not a sum of residential and nonresidential.
[13]Quad-Cities and consists of Florence, Muscle Shoals, Sheffield, and Tuscumbia.

1983 Retail Sales for Alabama

(Continued from Page 1)

CBER and the Alabama Revenue Department recognize the importance of retail sales estimates as an indicator of the vitality of the Alabama economy. The Revenue Department supports CBER in its efforts to estimate retail sales in Alabama. However, the Revenue Department's chief purpose is to collect tax revenues due the state. The abbreviated sales tax return achieves this purpose and at the same time relieves the taxpayer of some of the burden imposed by government. The new tax return form unfortunately had an adverse impact on the retail trade series in that some items used previously to compile sales estimates are no longer available. For sales categories in which a high proportion of sales are exempt from sales tax or in which taxes are paid through other avenues, (such as prescription drug and gasoline sales), sales returns filed in April and afterwards may be artifically low because of the loss of detail on the tax return form. In such cases CBER has estimated sales based on past performance of the firms in the categories affected.

A third factor limiting comparability between 1983 and earlier years is reflected in county-level data and does not affect data for the state as a whole. Most firms with sales outlets in several counties in Alabama report the sales of all outlets from a single location, such as a home office. As a result, sales estimates are understated for the county in which the sale occurred and are overstated for the county from which the report was filed. Working with the Revenue Department, CBER developed a method to disaggregate back to the

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1983 Retail Sales in Alabama

(Continued from Page 7)

counties of origin the sales of the largest multi-outlet firms doing business in the state. This feature was introduced during the mid-1970s but was updated extensively beginning with sales reported during July 1983. Therefore, monthly reports at the county level for January through June 1983 are more comparable with reports for earlier years, while county-level reports for July through December 1983 more accurately reflect actual sales levels within the counties. When analyzing the 1983 monthly county-level data, we suggest the reader draw comparisons from the percent of change from month to month, with the exception of June to July 1983 comparisons.

With these caveats in mind, let's take a closer look at the 1983 retail sales estimates for Alabama:

As previously stated, total sales estimates for 1983 represent an increase of 4.7 percent over 1982 estimates. By category, however, retail sales by nonretail concerns (such as wholesalers, manufacturers, and service firms) in 1983 declined by 12.8 percent from the category's 1982 estimate. If retail sales by nonretail concerns are excluded from the total, sales by retail concerns marked an increase of 9.7 percent in 1983 over the 1982 level. Total sales by retail concerns in Alabama are estimated at $18,132 million, an increase of $1,607 million from the 1982 estimate.

Of the thirteen major categories of retail sales, four categories reflect declines in sales in 1983 from their 1982 estimates. (Although not as severe in magnitude, four of the thirteen categories reflected declines in the preliminary 1982 estimates when compared against the revised 1981 estimates.) Besides retail sales by nonretail concerns, which declined by $609 million from the 1982 estimate to a level of $4,131 million for 1983, other categories which marked declines for 1983 were: general stores with food and gas, a decline of $8 million (2.4 percent) to a 1983 level of $323 million; gasoline service stations, a decline of $290 million (21.6 percent) to a level of $1,052 million; and drug stores, a decline of $63 million (11.8 percent) to a level of $473 million for 1983. All four categories were susceptible to the loss of detail which resulted from the abbreviated sales tax return form, and therefore the likelihood is high that sales are understated in these categories. On the other hand, this should not suggest that a modest increase in 1983 over 1982 in each of these categories can be assumed. Gasoline sales in Alabama, for example, have declined steadily each year from a peak reached in 1977, according to the Motor Fuels Division of the Alabama Department of Revenue. Coupled with declining prices at the pump, sales by gasoline service stations indeed may have declined in 1983. The evidence available from the retail sales estimate is simply insufficient to make an unqualified judgment.

From a different perspective, several categories of retail trade showed robust increases in the 1983 estimates over the 1982 estimates. In all categories which exhibited increases, those increases were well above the overall inflation rate of 3.2 percent for 1983 as measured by the Consumer Price Index. The performance of those categories in which sales of durable goods and construction-related items are reported is noteworthy.

Sales estimates for 1983 in the lumber and building materials category led all other categories in percent of increase over the 1982 estimates. Lumber and building materials sales increased a whopping 31.1 percent in 1983 over 1982, according to the 1983 estimates. The increase of $241 million pushed the lumber and building materials estimate to $1,016 million for 1983. The automotive category also rebounded strongly, with 1983 sales estimate up 24.2 percent from the 1982 level. An increase of $652 million boosted automotive sales to $3,342 million in 1983. (Besides new and used car sales, this category includes auto parts shops as well as motorcycle, aircraft, and motorboat sales establishments.)

Sales in the furniture and furnishings category also were up sharply in 1983. Sales in this category increased by $108 million to $642 million, an increase of 20.2 percent over the 1982 estimate. Sales in the hardware category too marked a sharp increase for 1983. Hardware sales increased by $66 million to a level of $417 million in 1983, an increase of 18.8 percent over hardware sales for 1982.

Although not as dramatic in the percent of increase, retail sales in primarily nondurable goods categories marked significant increases. Sales by general merchandisers increased by $326 million in 1983 to a level of $2,618 million, an increase of 14.2 percent over 1982 sales. Apparel sales increased by $52 million to reach $551 million, a 10.4 percent increase from the 1982 level. Sales in the eating places category amounted to $111 million more in 1983 than in 1982 to total $1,223 million, a 10.0 percent increase. Food store sales were up 6.4 percent in 1983, reflecting an increase of $231 million to a level of $3,865 million. Finally, the all-other category, which includes businesses in everything from florists to junk yards, increased by $181 million to a level of $2,611 million, up 7.4 percent from the category's 1982 sales estimate.

Maintaining comparability of the retail sales series from year to year and month to month has constantly posed a challenge for both CBER and the Department of Revenue. In that regard, 1983 offered no challenges not previously seen. However, 1983 marks an end to the retail sales series as it has been known. Beginning with January 1984 reports, the series will no longer estimate sales of items which are exempt from the state sales tax. The loss of those tax-exempt sales--sales in interstate commerce, gasoline, prescription drugs, among others--is such that the series will be given a new name to reflect its new, taxed-only nature. We anticipate these changes will occur with the next issue.

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Center for Business
and Economic Research
The University of Alabama
P.O. Box AK
University, Alabama 35486

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